CLAIM(S)

Whaт Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for producing a compressed video bitstream that includes compressed video data for a plurality of frames from data that specifies a single still image, the method comprising the steps of:

5   fetching the data for the still image;

encoding the data for the still image into data for an intra ("I") frame;

storing the encoded I frame data;

assembling the compressed video bitstream by appropriately

10 combining data for:

at least a single copy of the stored I frame;

at least one null frame; and

various a headers required for decodability of the compressed video bitstream;

15 whereby decoding of the compressed video bitstream produces frames of video that do not appear to pulse visually.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein:

the assembled compressed video bitstream may be decoded in accordance with the MPEG-1 standard; and

the various headers assembled into the compressed video
5 bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video
bitstream;

at a beginning of group of pictures, a group_start_code;

for each encoded frame, a picture_start_code; and

10 a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video
bitstream.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein:

the assembled compressed video bitstream may be decoded in
accordance with the MPEG-2 standard; and

the various headers assembled into the compressed video
5 bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video
bitstream;

for each encoded frame:

a picture_header; and

10 a picture_coding_extension; and

a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video
~~bitstream.~~

4. The method of claim 1 wherein parameters employed in
encoding the data for the still image produce an amount of data for

the I frame that approaches, but remains less than, storage capacity of a buffer memory included in a decoder that stores the

5 compressed video bitstream.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein null frames assembled into the compressed video bitstream also include bitstream stuffing whereby the compressed video bitstream may be transmitted at a pre-established bitrate.